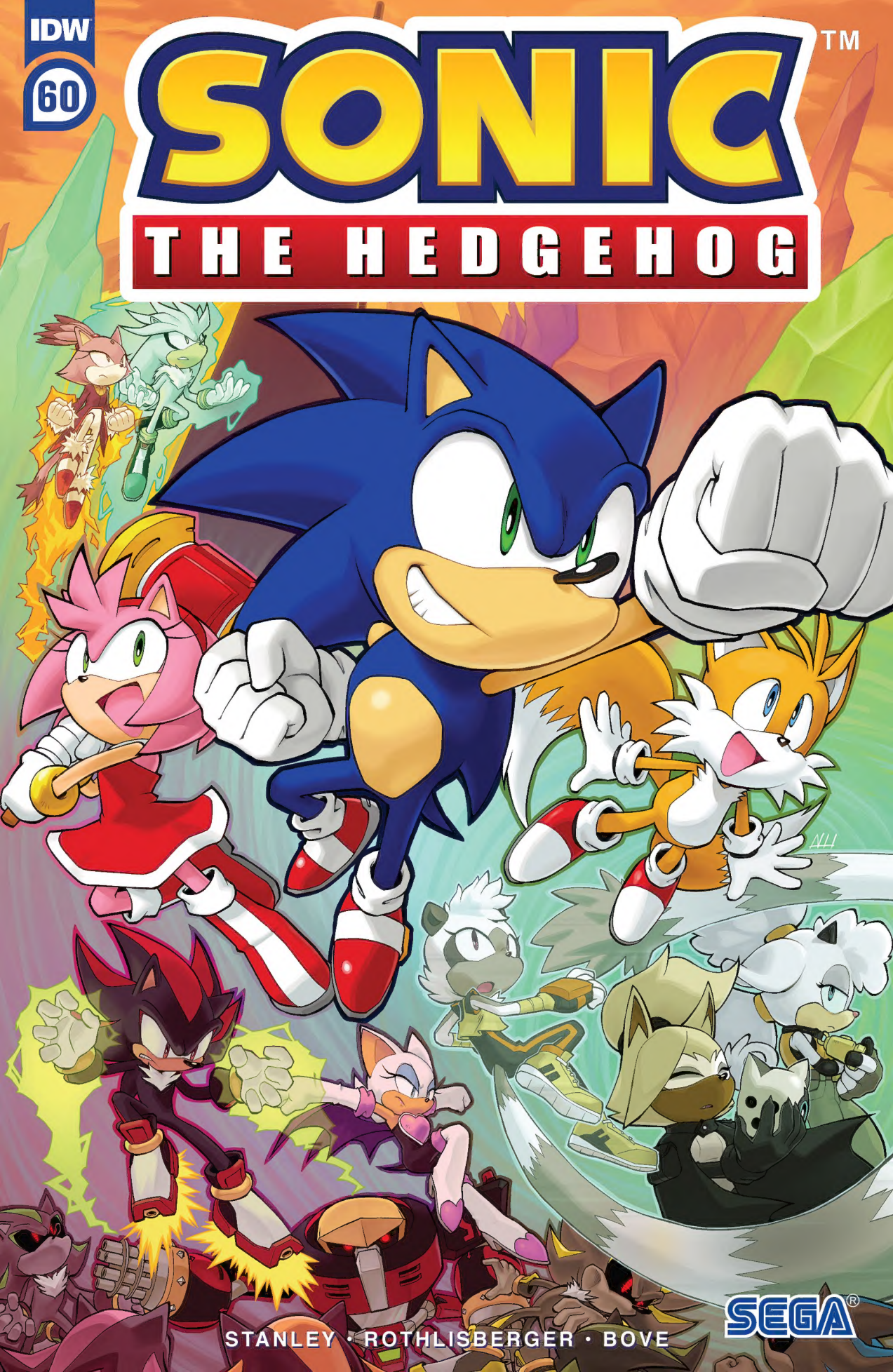
IDW

60

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG



STANLEY · ROTHLISBERGER · BOVE

SEGA®

STORY
EVAN STANLEY

ART
THOMAS ROTHLISBERGER

COLORS
JOHN-PAUL BOVE

COLOR ASSISTS BY
ED PIRRIE

LETTERS
SHAWN LEE

EDITORS
RILEY FARMER
DAVID MARIOTTE

COVER A
ART BY AARON HAMMERSTROM

COVER B
ART BY BRACARDI CURRY

COVER RI
ART BY NATHALIE FOURDRAINE

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE COVER
ART BY GIGI DUTREIX

CONVENTION EXCLUSIVE
FOIL COVER
ART BY GIGI DUTREIX

Special thanks to Mai Kiyotaki, Afia Khan, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, Sonic Team, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.

IDW®
@IDWpublishing
IDWpublishing.com

For international rights, contact licensing@idwpublishing.com.
Ted Adams and Robbie Robbins, IDW Founders

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #60. MAY 2023. © SEGA. All rights reserved. SEGA is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. SEGA and SONIC THE HEDGEHOG are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 2355 Northside Drive, Suite 140, San Diego, CA 92108. The IDW logo is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC. IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.

Nachie Marsham, Publisher
Blake Kobashigawa, SVP Sales, Marketing & Strategy
Mark Doyle, VP Editorial & Creative Strategy
Tara McCrillis, VP Publishing Operations
Anna Morrow, VP Marketing & Publicity
Alex Hargett, VP Sales
Jamie S. Rich, Executive Editorial Director
Scott Dunbier, Director, Special Projects
Greg Gustin, Sr. Director, Content Strategy
Kevin Schwoer, Sr. Director of Talent Relations

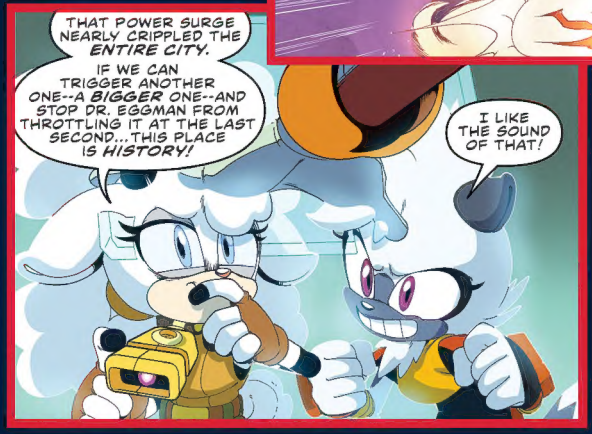
Lauren LePera, Sr. Managing Editor
Keith Davidsen, Director, Marketing & PR
Topher Alford, Sr. Digital Marketing Manager
Patrick O'Connell, Sr. Manager, Direct Market Sales
Shauna Monteforte, Sr. Director of Manufacturing Operations
Greg Foreman, Director DTC Sales & Operations
Nathan Widick, Director of Design
Neil Uyetake, Sr. Art Director, Design & Production
Shawn Lee, Art Director, Design & Production
Jack Levesque, Art Director, Marketing

AT LAST, I CAN PROPERLY INTRODUCE YOU TO MY LATEST CREATION.
THIS IS MY CITY OF TOMORROW, A SELF-REPLICATING, SELF-REPAIRING METROPOLIS UNLIKE ANYTHING THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN.

STORY SO FAR

...WELCOME TO EGGPERIAL CITY!
MY SHADOW ANDROIDS WILL BE HAPPY TO SHOW YOU AROUND!
ENJOY YOUR STAY...SHORT AS IT MAY BE!

CHAOS... CONTROL.


THAT POWER SURGE NEARLY CRIPPLED THE ENTIRE CITY.
IF WE CAN TRIGGER ANOTHER ONE--A BIGGER ONE--AND STOP DR. EGGMAN FROM THROTTLING IT AT THE LAST SECOND...THIS PLACE IS HISTORY!
I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT!

SHVVT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
The Blue Blur.
Fastest thing alive.

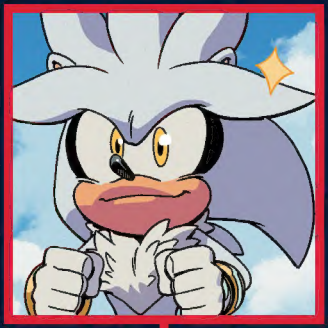
TANGLE THE LEMUR
Excitable Hero.
Diamond Cutter.

WHISPER THE WOLF
Silent Sniper.
Diamond Cutter.

LANOLIN THE SHEEP
Woolen Warrior.
Diamond Cutter.

AMY ROSE
Hammer-Swinging Heroine.
Restoration ally.

MILES "TAILS" PROWER
Tech-Savvy Sidekick.
High-flying genius.



SILVER THE HEDGEHOG
Young Psychic Hero.
Friend from the future.

BLAZE THE CAT
Fire-Powered Princess.
Friend from another dimension.

SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG
The Ultimate Life Form.
Sonic's grim rival.

ROUGE THE BAT
Treasure-Hunting Spy.
Restoration ally.

E-123 OMEGA
Rogue Super Badnik.
Robot hunter.

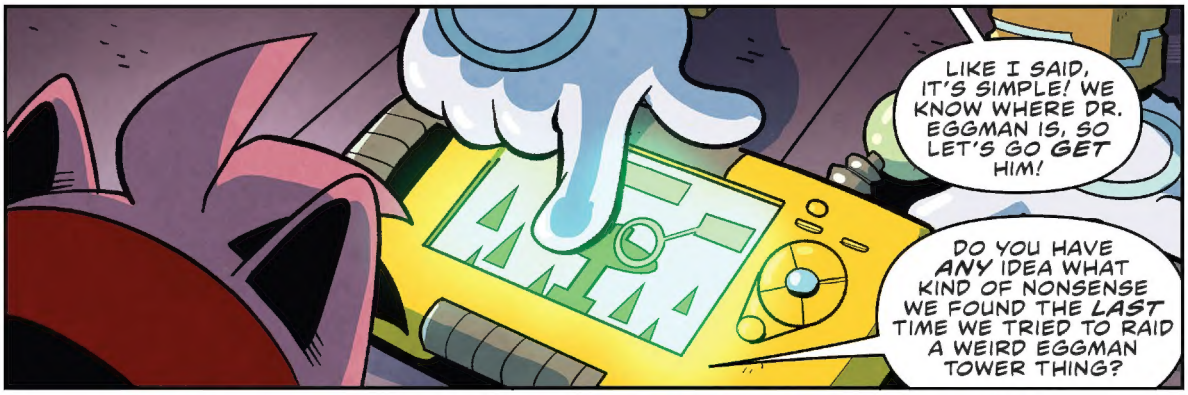
DR. EGGMAN
Mad Genius.
Egg enthusiast.

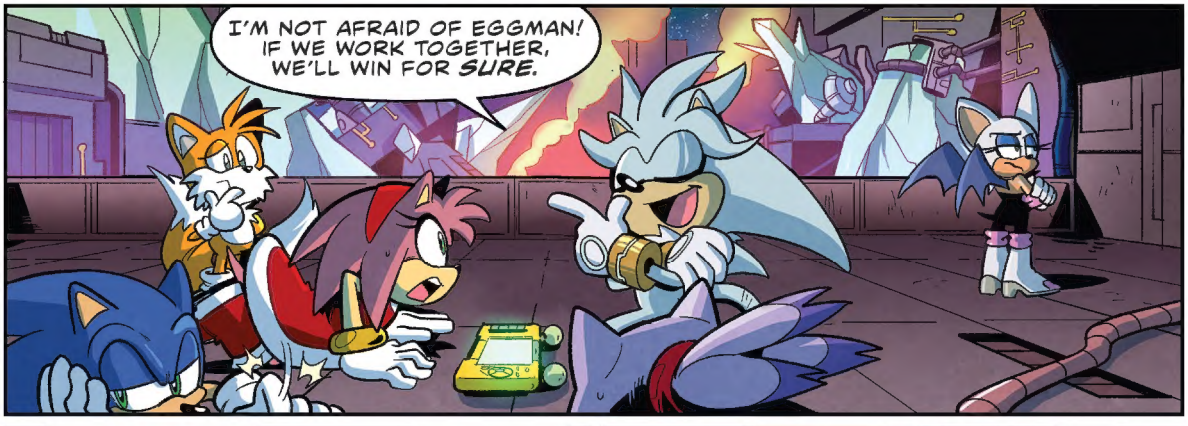
SHOOT SHOOT SHOOT!
NOTHING TO GRAB...
WHISPER, I'M SORRY...

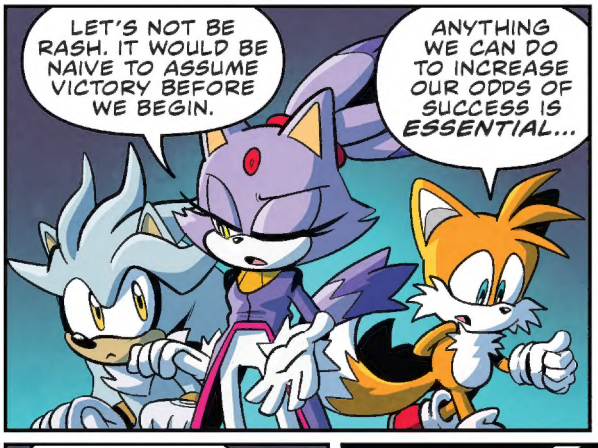
AAAAH--
SHVVT
--AAAH!
CRUNCH
AAAH!

DON'T PANIC, TANGLE! YOU CAN DO THIS!
THOOM
TAK

GAH!
PHEW...
...HE'S GONE...
...WHAT DID THAT TRAP THING DO TO ME? OH WELL... IT'S NOT GOOD, BUT AT LEAST IT'S USEFUL.
I'VE GOTTA TELL SONIC AND THE OTHERS WHAT'S UP. ≋SIGH≋ LANOLIN WOULD KNOW HOW TO FIND THEM, AND WHISPER COULD GET US THERE.
WHISPER... I PROMISED, BUT WHAT IF I--
NOPE, NOPE! DON'T THINK ABOUT IT. KEEP MOVING FORWARD.
THAT SMOKE IS AS GOOD A LEAD AS ANY... YOU'LL FIGURE THIS OUT, TANGLE. YOU HAVE TO.


LIKE I SAID, IT'S SIMPLE! WE KNOW WHERE DR. EGGMAN IS, SO LET'S GO GET HIM!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT KIND OF NONSENSE WE FOUND THE LAST TIME WE TRIED TO RAID A WEIRD EGGMAN TOWER THING?


I'M NOT AFRAID OF EGGMAN! IF WE WORK TOGETHER, WE'LL WIN FOR SURE.

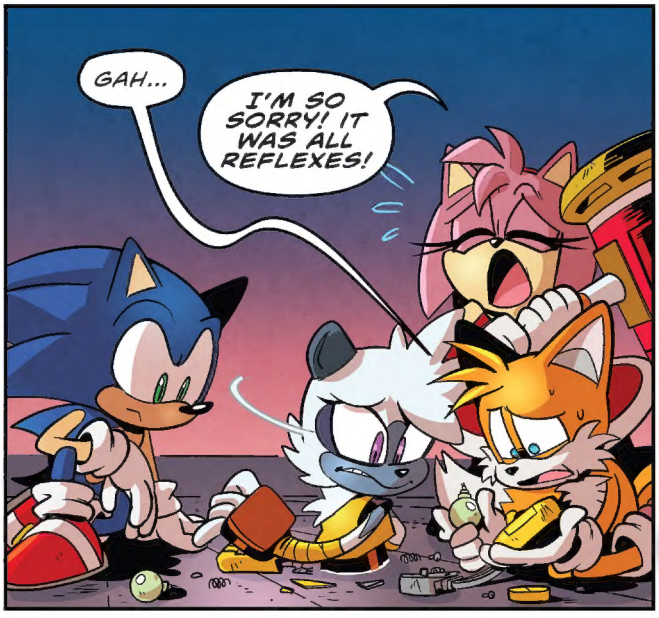

LET'S NOT BE RASH. IT WOULD BE NAIVE TO ASSUME VICTORY BEFORE WE BEGIN.
ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO INCREASE OUR ODDS OF SUCCESS IS ESSENTIAL...

AND OUR BEST BET AT THAT IS RESCUING SHADOW AND OMEGA.

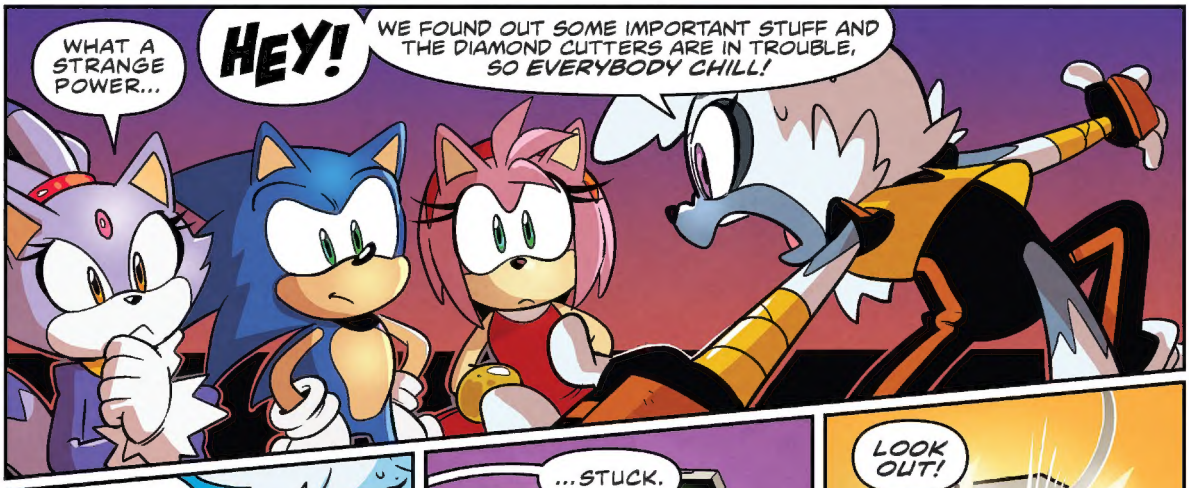
THAT DOES MAKE SENSE...
IT'S ALWAYS BEST WHEN COOLER HEADS PREVAIL.

FINALLY, FOUND YOU GUYS!
EEYAH!

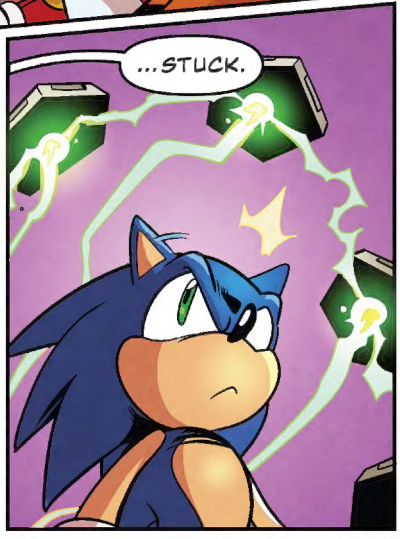
PIKO

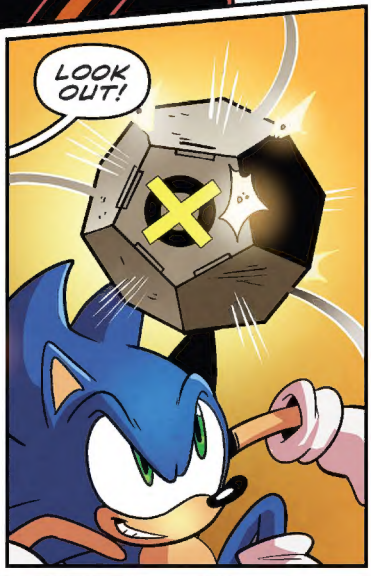

GAH...
I'M SO SORRY! IT WAS ALL REFLEXES!

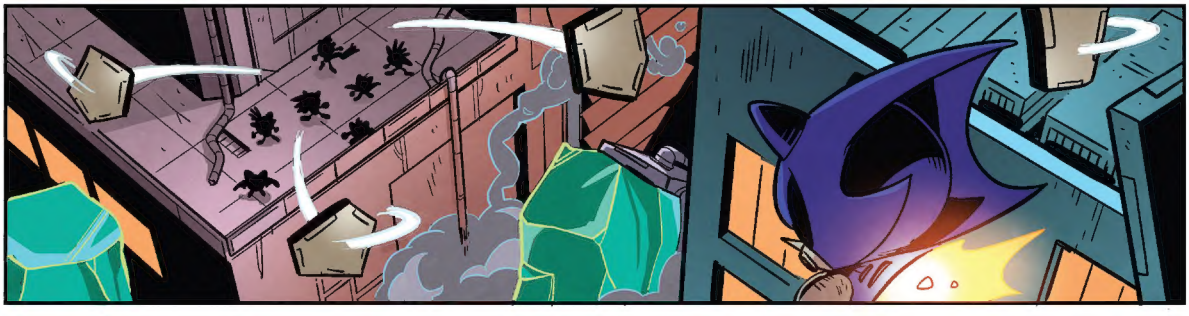
WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED TO YOU?
A SEMI-SOLID STATE? REMARKABLE.


WHAT A STRANGE POWER...
HEY!
WE FOUND OUT SOME IMPORTANT STUFF AND THE DIAMOND CUTTERS ARE IN TROUBLE, SO EVERYBODY CHILL!

TANGLE, DID THE TRAP WE RAN INTO DO THIS?
YEAH... I DON'T THINK IT'S WHAT EGGMAN MEANT FOR IT TO DO, THOUGH.
WHISPER AND LANOLIN, THEY'RE...

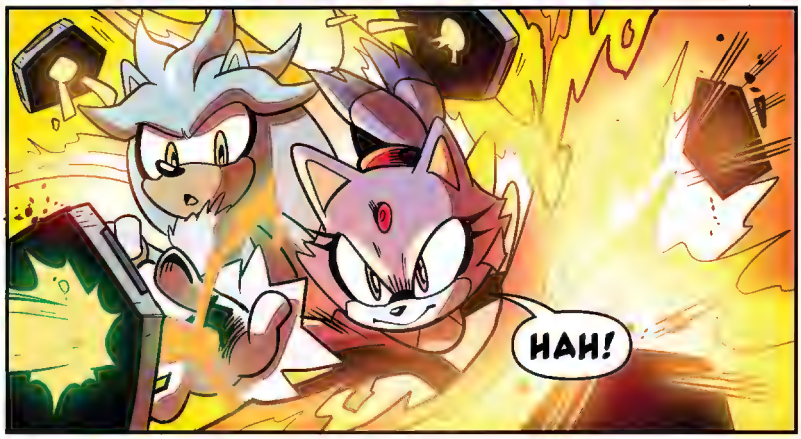

...STUCK.

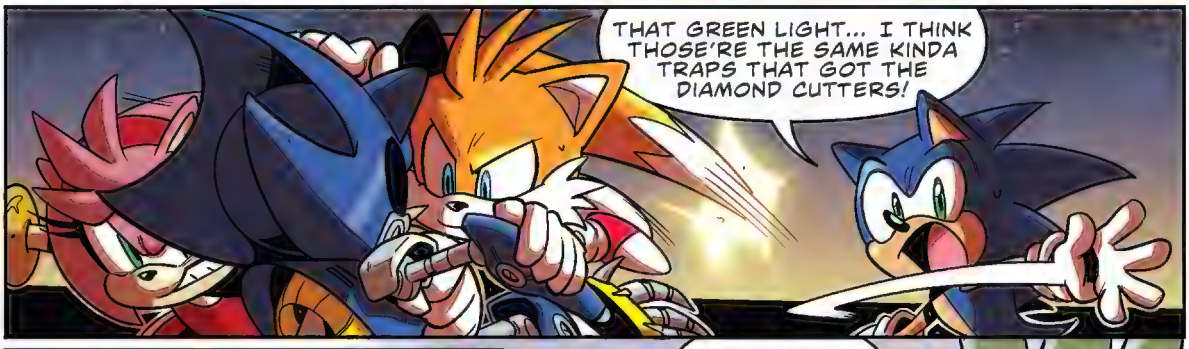

LOOK OUT!



HE USED ME... LET ME LEAD HIM HERE...

WHUH--
DON'T LET THOSE THINGS GET CLOSE!


HAH!

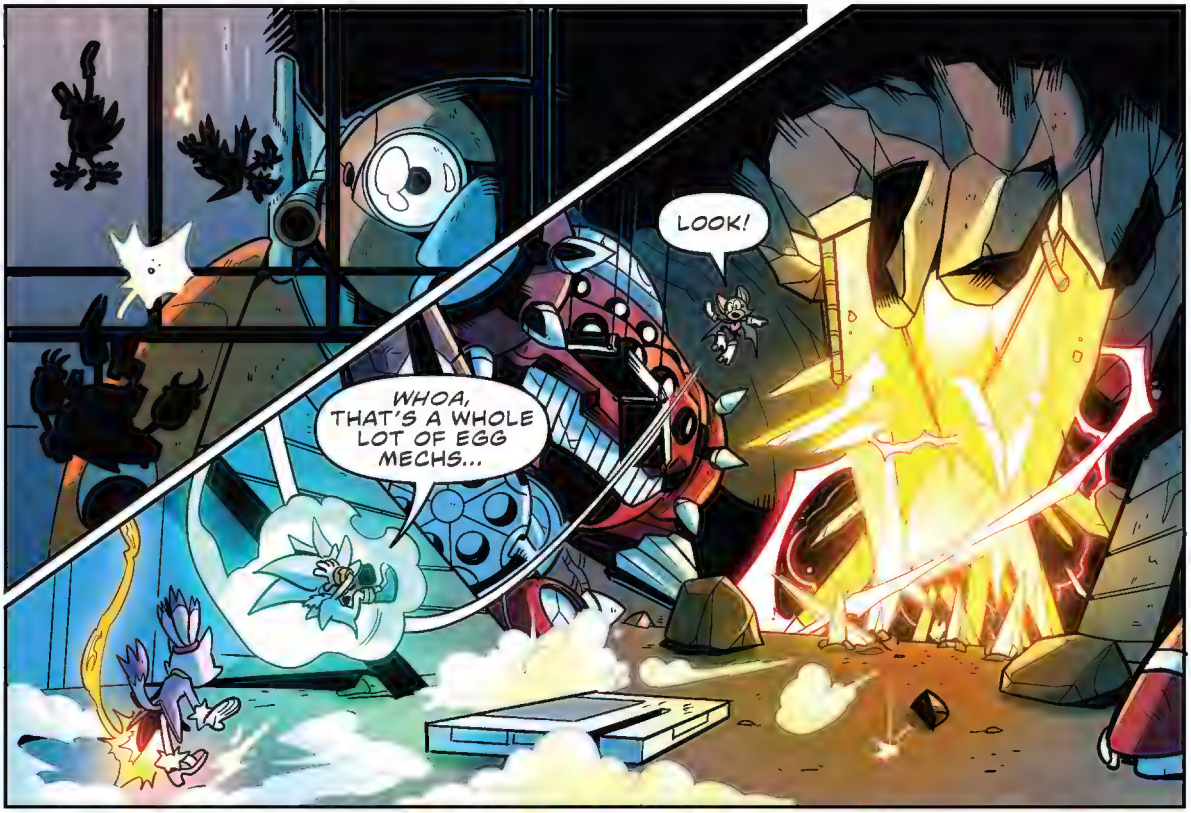

THAT GREEN LIGHT... I THINK THOSE'RE THE SAME KINDA TRAPS THAT GOT THE DIAMOND CUTTERS!

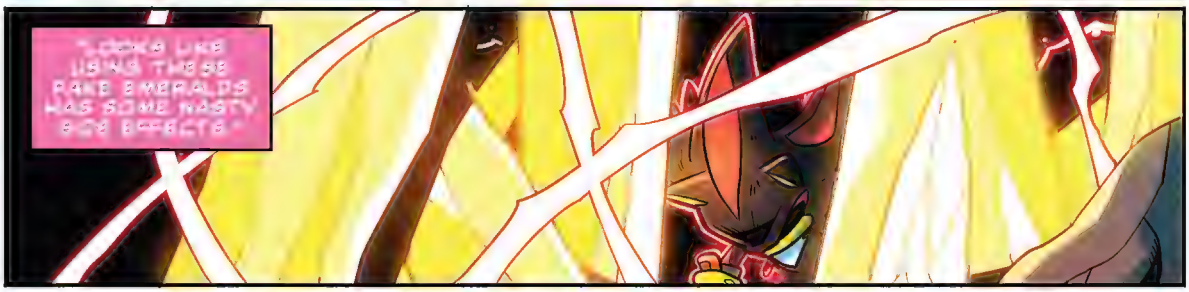
NOT ON MY WATCH!
NICE!

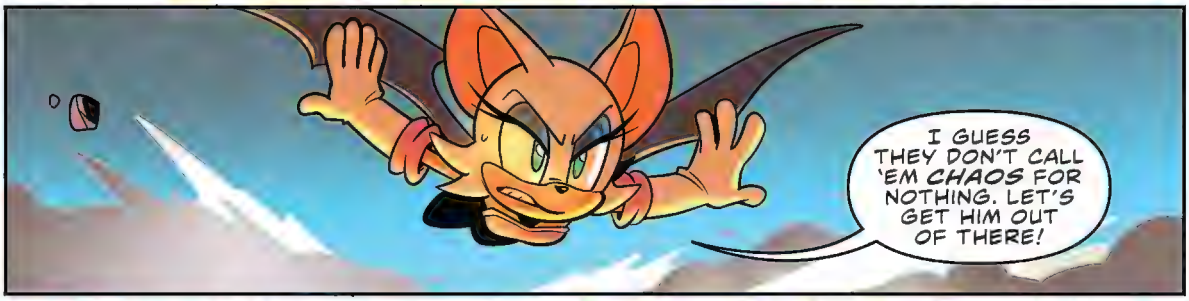
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE...LET'S DO THIS!
OH, NO, YOU DON'T!

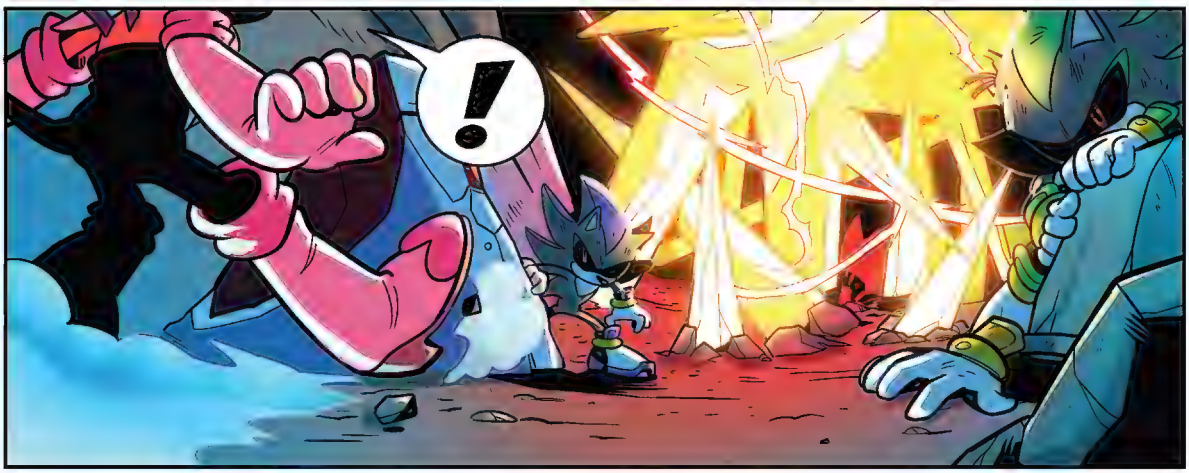
WE'VE GOT BIG PROBLEMS, NO TIME, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY...
...I AM NOT IN THE MOOD!
PIKO
KRAK
CRASH
JUST THE KIND OF DIRECT DIPLOMACY WE NEED.
WE SHOULD GET MOVING BEFORE HE COMES BACK. WHAT DID YOU NEED TO TELL US, TANGLE?
OH, RIGHT! WE FIGURED OUT HOW TO TAKE DOWN THE CITY! BUT FIRST...

"...WHERE'S SHADOW?"
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THIS IS THE SAME STREET AS BEFORE...YOU REALLY THINK HE'S STILL HERE?
HE'D BETTER BE, FOR ALL OUR SAKES.
QUIET. WE DON'T KNOW WHAT ENEMIES MAY STILL BE LURKING AROUND HERE.
IF ANY OF THOSE ANDROIDS WERE LEFT, WE WOULD HAVE SEEN THEM BY NOW.
!!
SWIPE
OMEGA!
THERE YOU ARE! STILL IN ONE PIECE THIS TIME, BIG GUY?
AFFIRMATIVE. AS SOON AS I AM FREE, I WILL EXACT MY REVENGE ON THIS TREACHEROUS TERRAIN.
WHUMMM
SHA-SHUNK

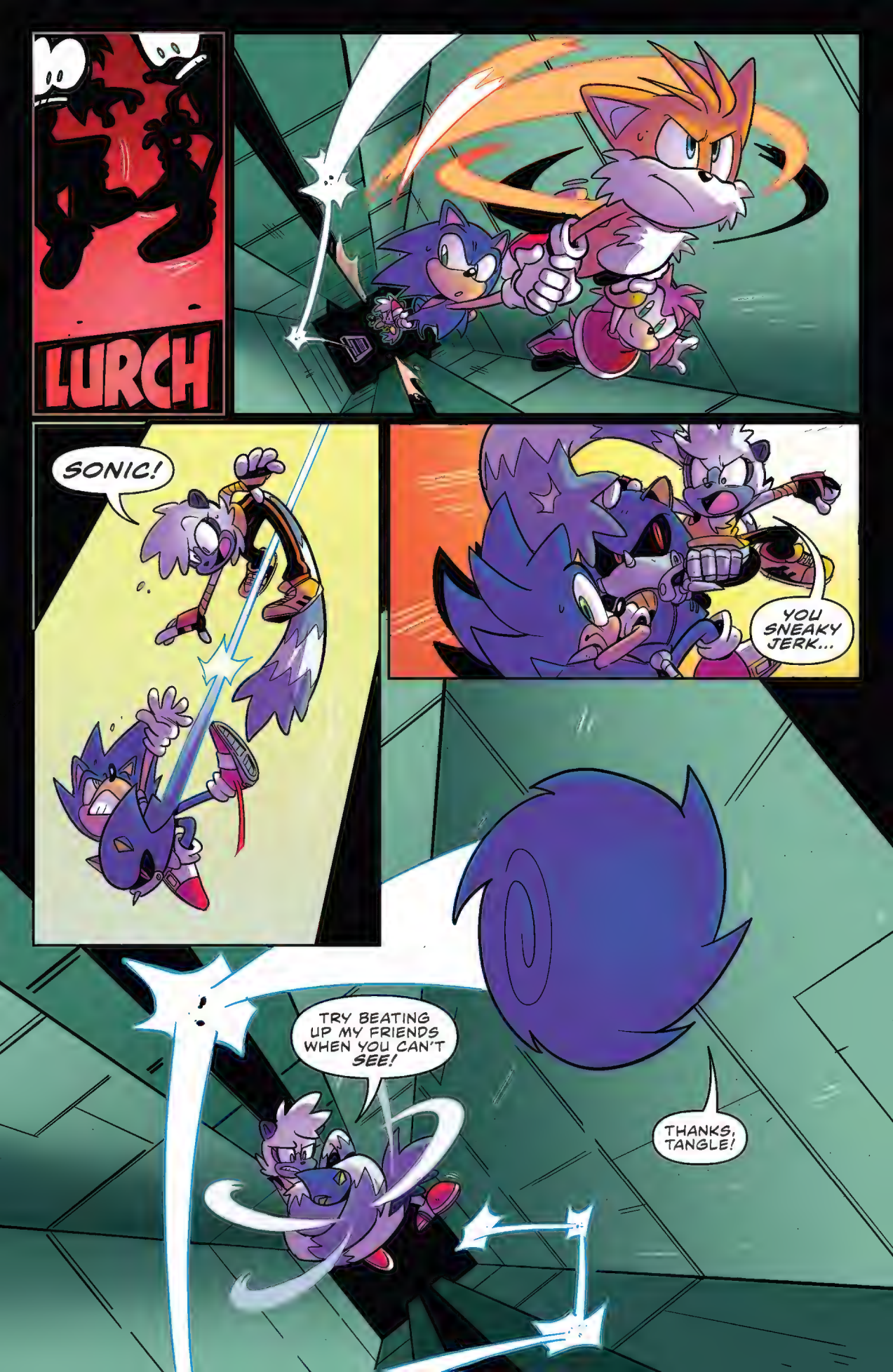

LOOK!
WHOA, THAT'S A WHOLE LOT OF EGG MECHS...


"LOOKS LIKE USING THESE FAKE EMERALDS HAS SOME NASTY SIDE EFFECTS."


I GUESS THEY DON'T CALL 'EM *CHAOS* FOR NOTHING. LET'S GET HIM OUT OF THERE!

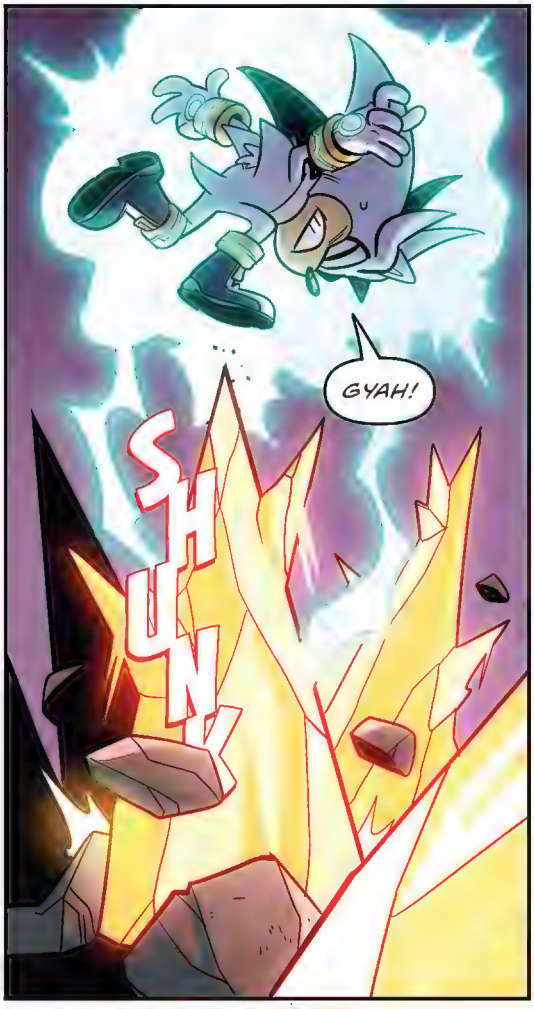

!

ZAK
GOT IT!
OKAY. FIRST, WE BREAK INTO THE CONTROL ROOM. SECOND, TAILS DISABLES EGGMAN'S SAFEGUARDS FOR THE FAKE EMERALD POWER GRID.
THAT WAY, WE CAN RESCUE WHISPER AND LANOLIN. AND CRASHING THE SYSTEM WILL STOP THE CITY FROM GROWING, RIGHT?
YUP. OTHERWISE, THE CITY WILL KEEP EXPANDING FOREVER!
THAT'S MY HYPOTHESIS, AT LEAST. IF I STILL HAD THE MILES ELECTRIC, I'D KNOW FOR SURE...
I SAID IT WAS AN ACCI--OOP!
TWOOONG
WHY'D WE STOP?
...I THINK I MIGHT HAVE AN IDEA.
GOING BY THE SOUND, I'D SAY SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THE CABLE SYSTEM. BUT WHAT?
SNAP

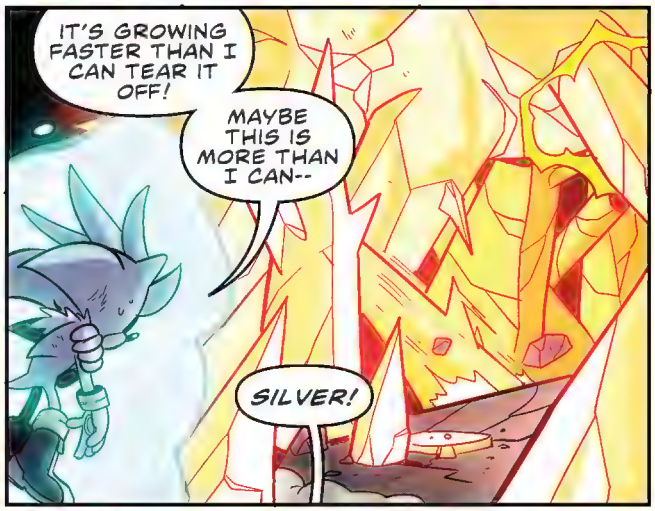

LURCH
SONIC!
YOU SNEAKY JERK...
TRY BEATING UP MY FRIENDS WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE!
THANKS, TANGLE!

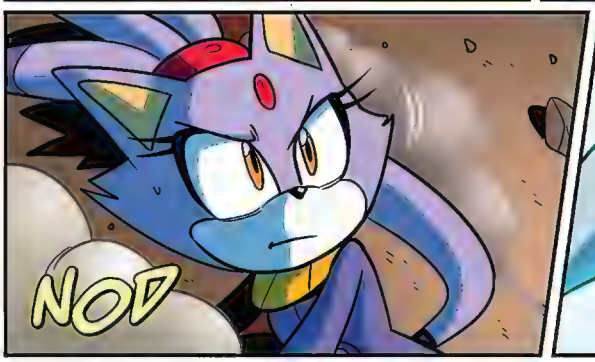
RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRUMBLE
WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME, PEOPLE!
CAN'T GET AN OPENING...
STAND DOWN. IF IT IS AN OPENING YOU REQUIRE...
...THEN I WILL PROVIDE!
BA-DA-BOOM
UGH! IT'S OVER-POWERING...
I'M NOT GETTING BOSSED AROUND BY SOME OVERGROWN ROCK!
AAAH!
WE CAN'T EVEN GET CLOSE!
I CAN... HANDLE IT...

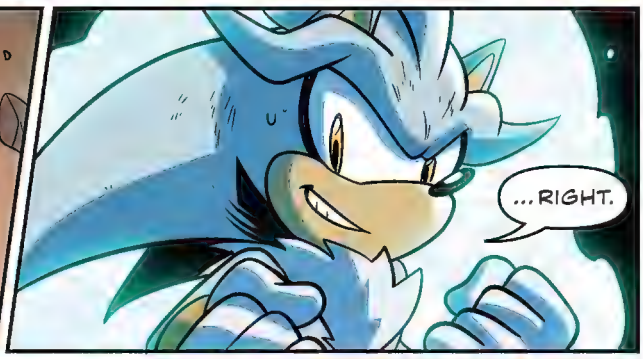
IF I CAN JUST FIGURE OUT WHY IT'S--
GYAAAH!
KZZAAAK


GYAH!
SHUNK

THIS IS BAD...

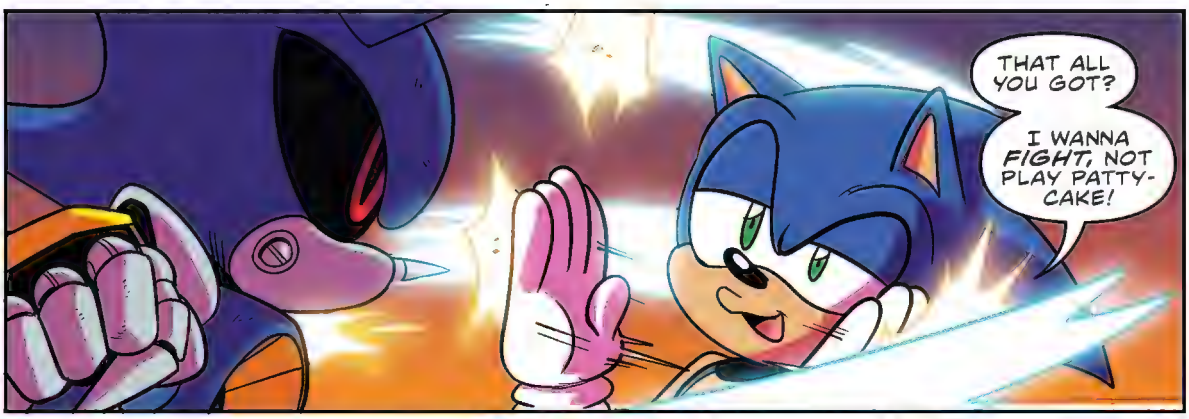

IT'S GROWING FASTER THAN I CAN TEAR IT OFF!
MAYBE THIS IS MORE THAN I CAN--
SILVER!


NOD


...RIGHT.

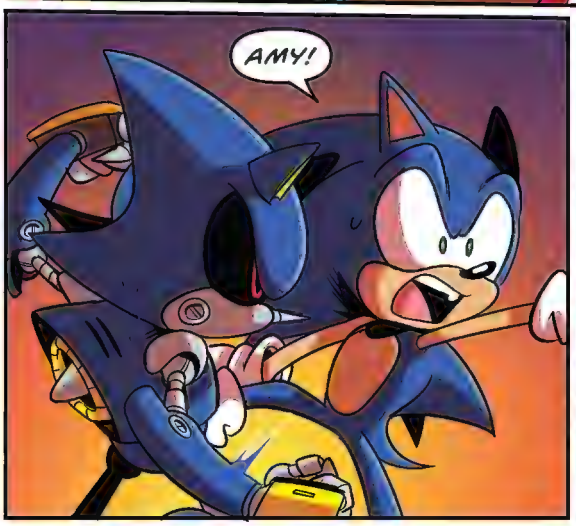
GET READY TO BE FREE, SHADOW, 'CAUSE I'M NOT GIVING UP THAT EASILY!

AH, THAT MUST BE SHADOW... HIS CHAOS CONTROL'S MADE THE FAKE EMERALDS UNSTABLE. KEEP IT UP, FOOL!
THE MORE YOU TRY TO USE MY EMERALDS, THE BIGGER THEY'LL GET! MORE POWER FOR ME, AND MY CITY!
BUT, BOSS, ISN'T THAT DANGEROUS? IF THE CITY'S INFRASTRUCTURE CAN'T KEEP UP...
THAT'S WHAT MY SAFEGUARDS ARE FOR! EVEN IF THE EMERALDS' POWER OVERLOADS--WHICH IT WON'T--I'LL JUST REBOOT THE SYSTEM AGAIN.
SURPRISE, EGGY! SORRY WE DIDN'T KNOCK!
GAH!
WHAT DID YOU DO, METAL?!
SOMEONE IS GETTING A VERY STRICT SOFTWARE PATCH AFTER THIS!
HYAAAH!
EGAD!
AAAH! NOT AGAIN!
JUST YOU AND ME, METAL.
LET'S DANCE!

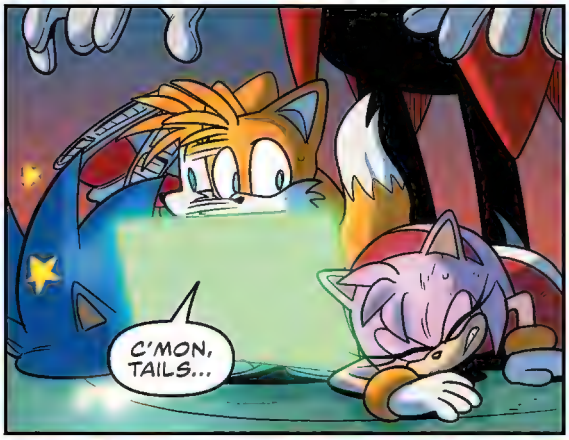

THAT ALL YOU GOT?
I WANNA FIGHT, NOT PLAY PATTY-CAKE!

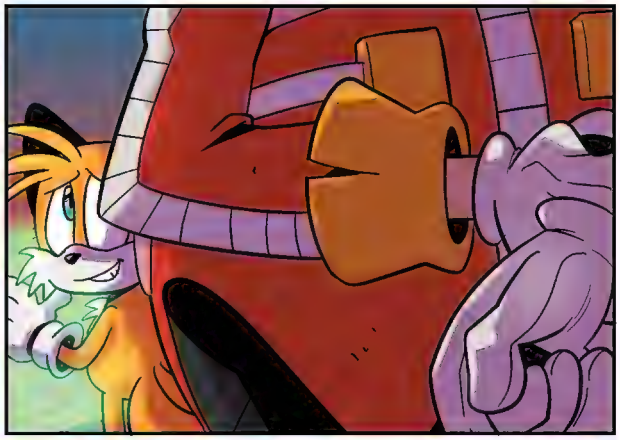
SORRY, BOSS...
...I MUST'VE LEFT MY COMBAT SUBROUTINES IN MY BACKUP DRIVE!
SONIC'S GOT METAL HANDLED. NO BACKUP FOR YOU!

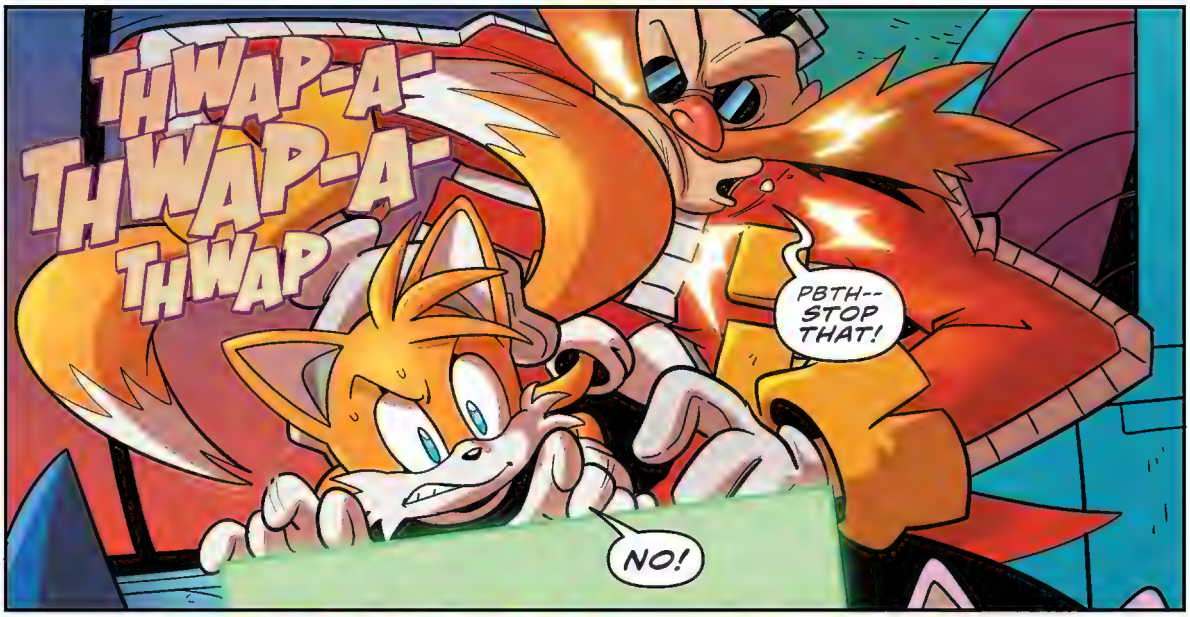
ARGH, USELESS...
...DO I HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING AROUND HERE?!
SKYOW!

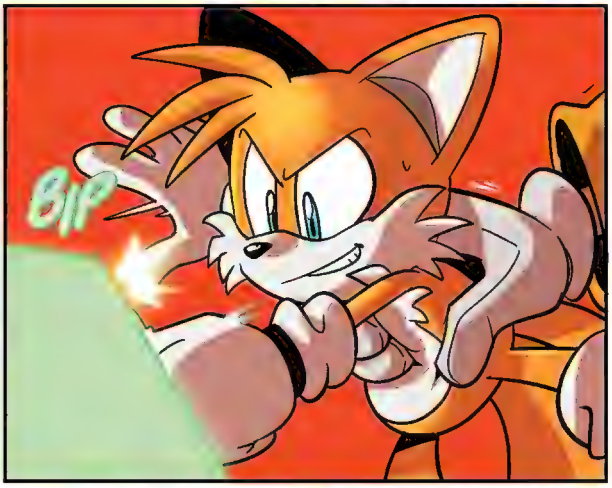

AMY!

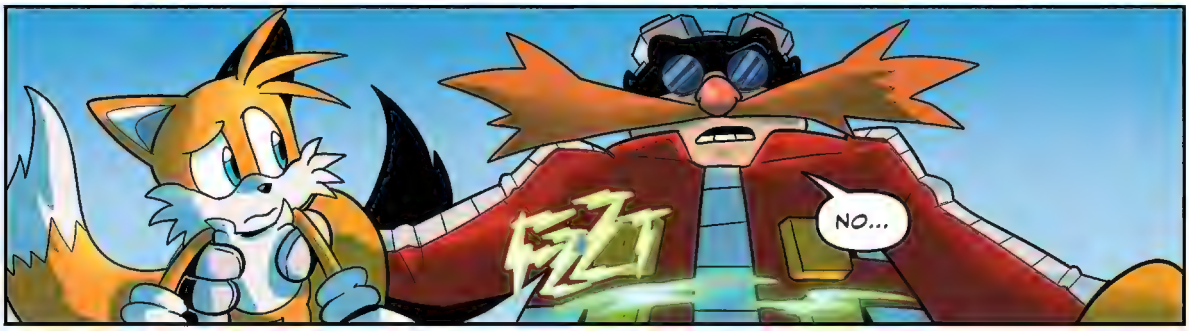
SOKK

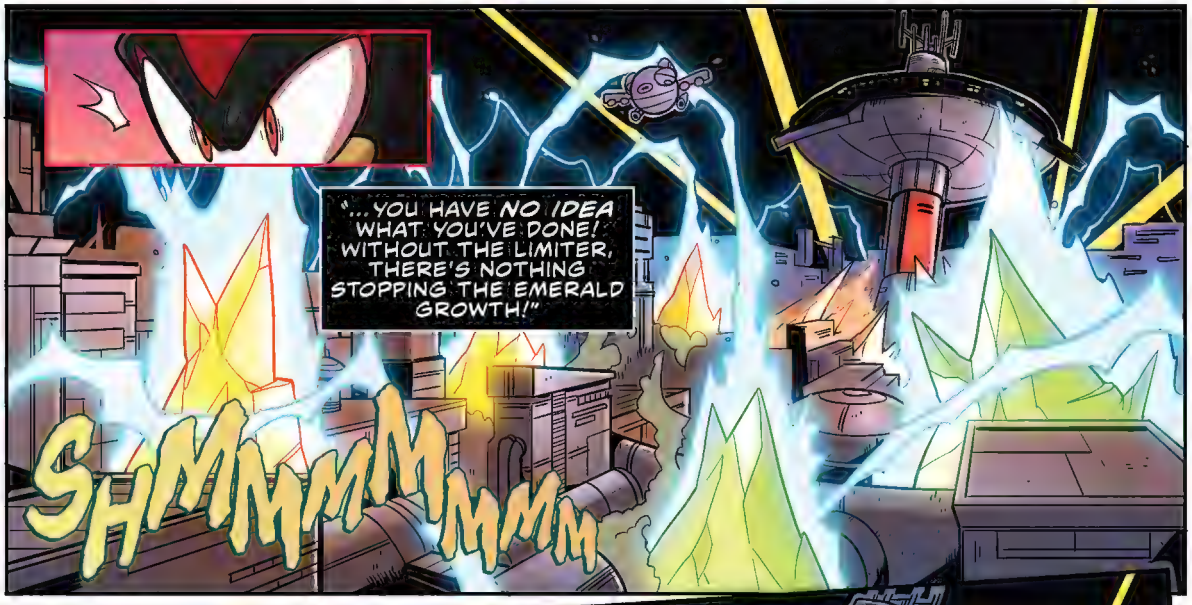

C'MON, TAILS...




THWAP-A-THWAP-A-THWAP
PBTH-- STOP THAT!
NO!

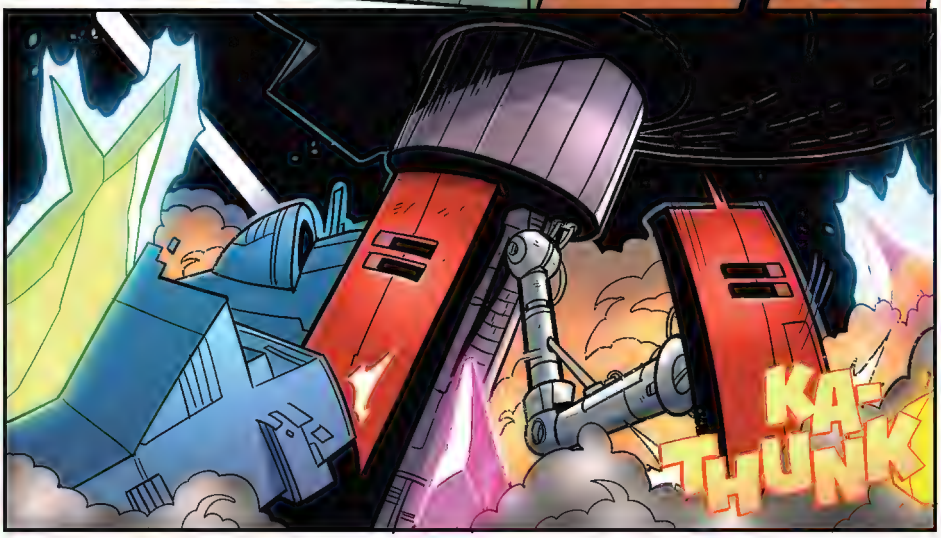

BIP


FZZT
NO...


"...YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'VE DONE! WITHOUT THE LIMITER, THERE'S NOTHING STOPPING THE EMERALD GROWTH!"
SHMMMMMMMM

MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM

FINE...
BIP


KA-THUNK

VWMMT
...TIME FOR PLAN B!
NEXT TIME:
PLAN B?! OH NO!

NEXT MONTH
MAURO FONSECA
JAN 2023

SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

**Sturdy handshake* Hello, Sonic Squad! What do you think Dr. Eggman's plan B is? Bombs? Bats? B…eggs? Thank you for joining Evan Stanley, Thomas Rothlisberger, John-Paul Bove, and Shawn Lee for issue #60! Now, let's take a look at your art and letters!*

Dear Sonic Team,

Hello, my name is John and I've known Sonic ever since I was 8 years old, with *Sonic the Hedgehog 2* being my first game ever completed.

I've enjoyed Sonic content since then and recently got around to reading the IDW comics with my friend.

We've been enjoying it a lot so far and have been amazed at the writing in the Metal Virus Saga and Imposter Syndrome arcs. It was a very impressive reading experience and one of my favorite parts of the comic. I really enjoyed the friendly relationship that Cream and Gemerl have.

Seeing Gemerl wanting to protect the bunny family was always heartwarming.

I wanted to ask, do you guys ever plan to make another arc with a world-threatening danger like the Metal Virus Saga had? And do you guys plan to do more with Surge and Kitsunami? I really enjoyed the characters and was wondering if we would see more of them.

Thanks for everything, and I look forward to keeping up with the comics going on.

Dear John,

Thank you so much for your letter and art! I really love the texture of your drawing. It's so sweet and cute. And I'm so glad that you and your friend have enjoyed some of our more dramatic stories. Through sheer coincidence, the Metal Virus Saga ended up happening right before Covid-19 hit so…I'm afraid for Ian or Evan to write another world-threatening danger. What if they predict another real-life disaster?! They have too much power. (But I'm sure Sonic's world will be in danger again in no time.) And Surge and Kit will be back eventually! They're simply too much fun to get rid of.

I hope you and your friend keep reading and enjoying the comic!

To Sonic letters squad

Hi!
I am a huge Sonic Fan. I am 10 years old and have been watching/reading/playing Sonic for years. I can not wait to see Sonic Prime, as I have seen the preview. I want to see it SO MUCH and have played the game for 5 years now. When you make another Scrapnik Island, can you please add a meka Shadow to match the other meka characters.
Here is a picture of Sonic the Hedgehog that I drew.
From, Sam Hackbarth

LETTER & ART BY SAM

Hi, Sam!

I love how you typed up your letter, thank you for making it so cool. The characters of Mecha Sonic and Knuckles were actually pulled from some old video games: Sonic & Knuckles *and* Sonic Advance. *There have not been any other Mecha characters for us to pull from old video games and rust-ify. But…a Mecha Shadow would be cool. I guess the closest thing we have are the Shadow Androids from this arc! Maybe we could have a rusted Shadow Android and a rusted Tails Doll team up…*

ART BY DYLAN

Thanks for joining us, Squad. Don't forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them "OKAY TO PRINT"! And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, pick up Sonic the Hedgehog *#61 to find out if Eggman's plan involves beggs!*

ART AARON HAMMERSTROM

ART BRACARDI CURRY

ART NATHALIE FOURDRAINE